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FIONA STAPLES

CHAPTER
FOURTEEN

Saga™

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Saga

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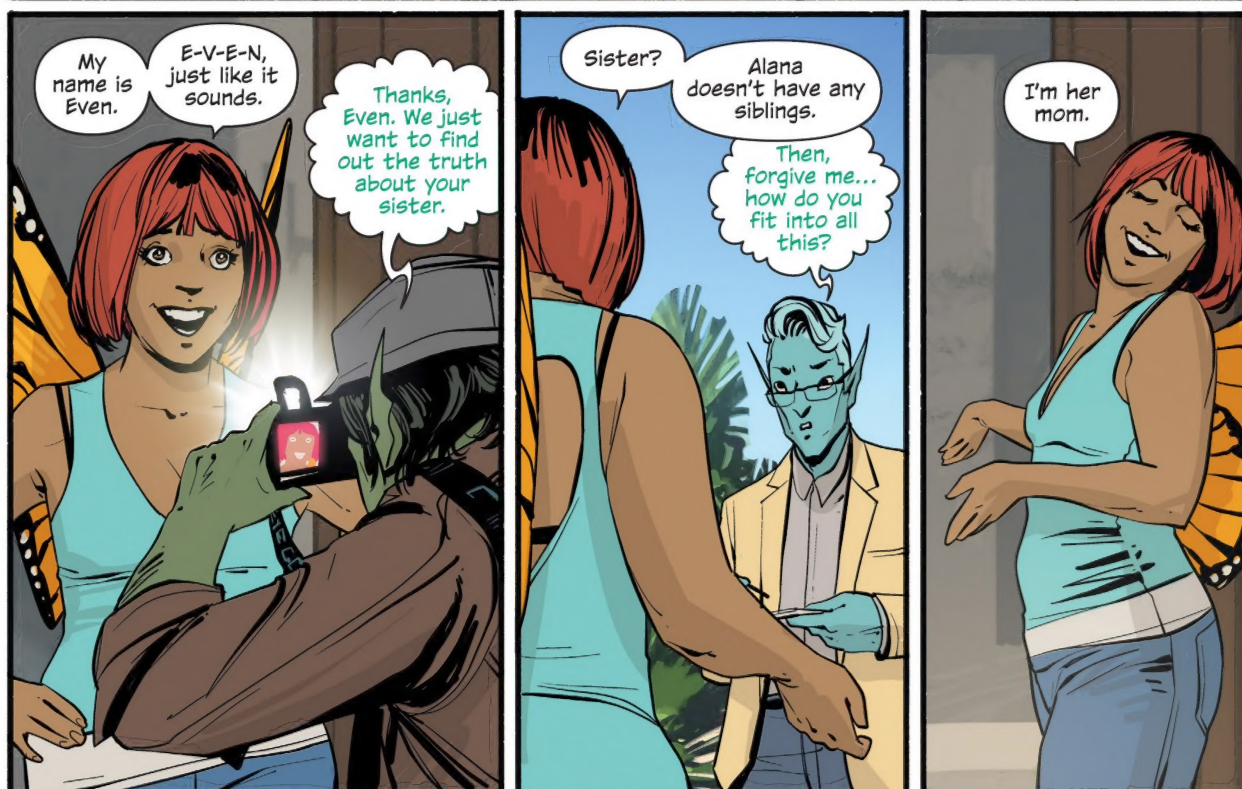
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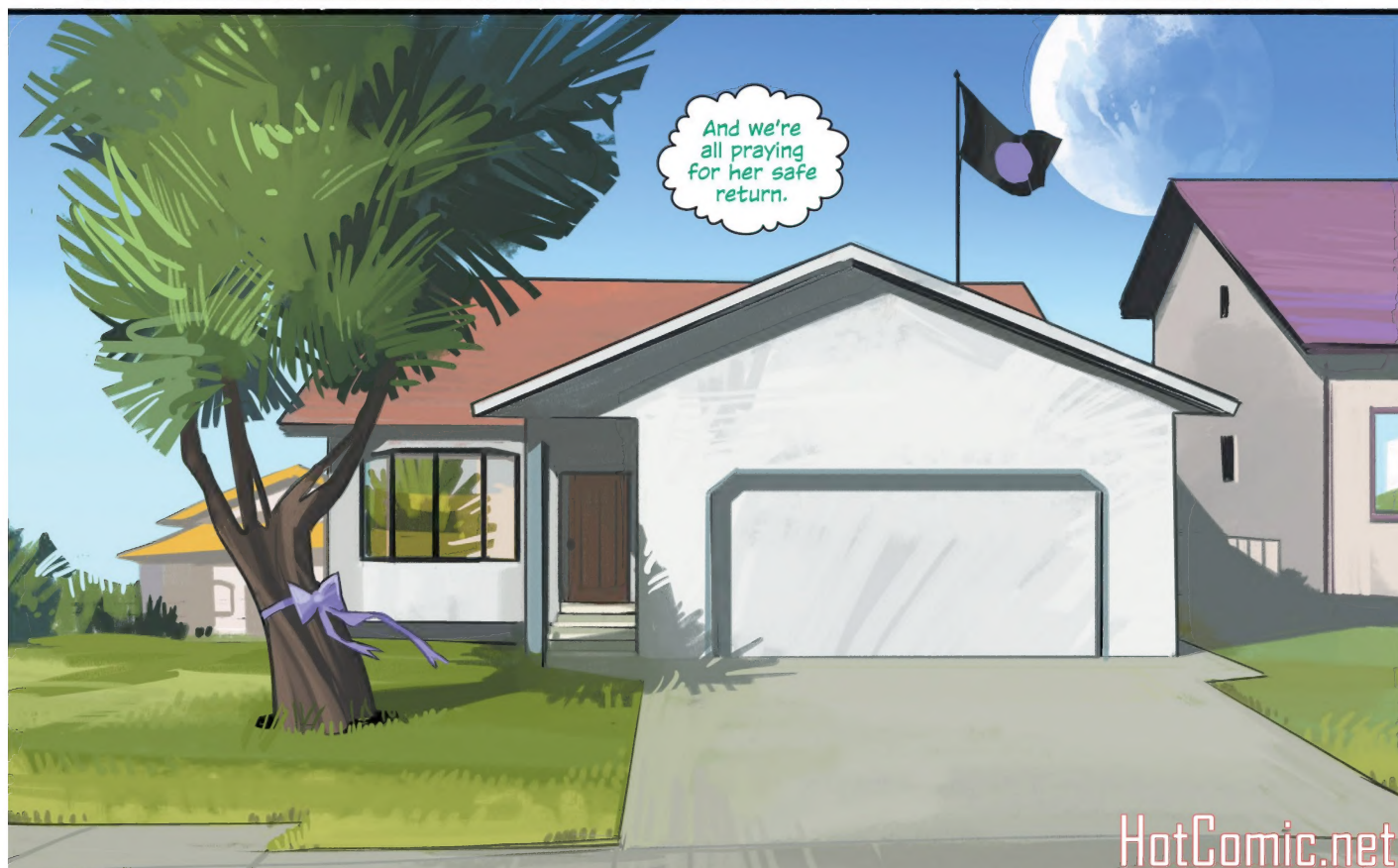
Is this
about
Alana?

Is she
dead?











Actually, my mother
never again set foot on
the planet where she
was born.



Granny and I did, but that
wasn't until long after this
trip... so I'll just shut up now.

Mister
Heist, please!
My husband
and I risked
everything to
see you.

You have no idea.
The wings technically
OWN Quietus. If they
catch an entire bloody
family of Wreathers
on their land --

Sir, my
wife *isn't*
from Wreath.
She's from
Landfall.



What?

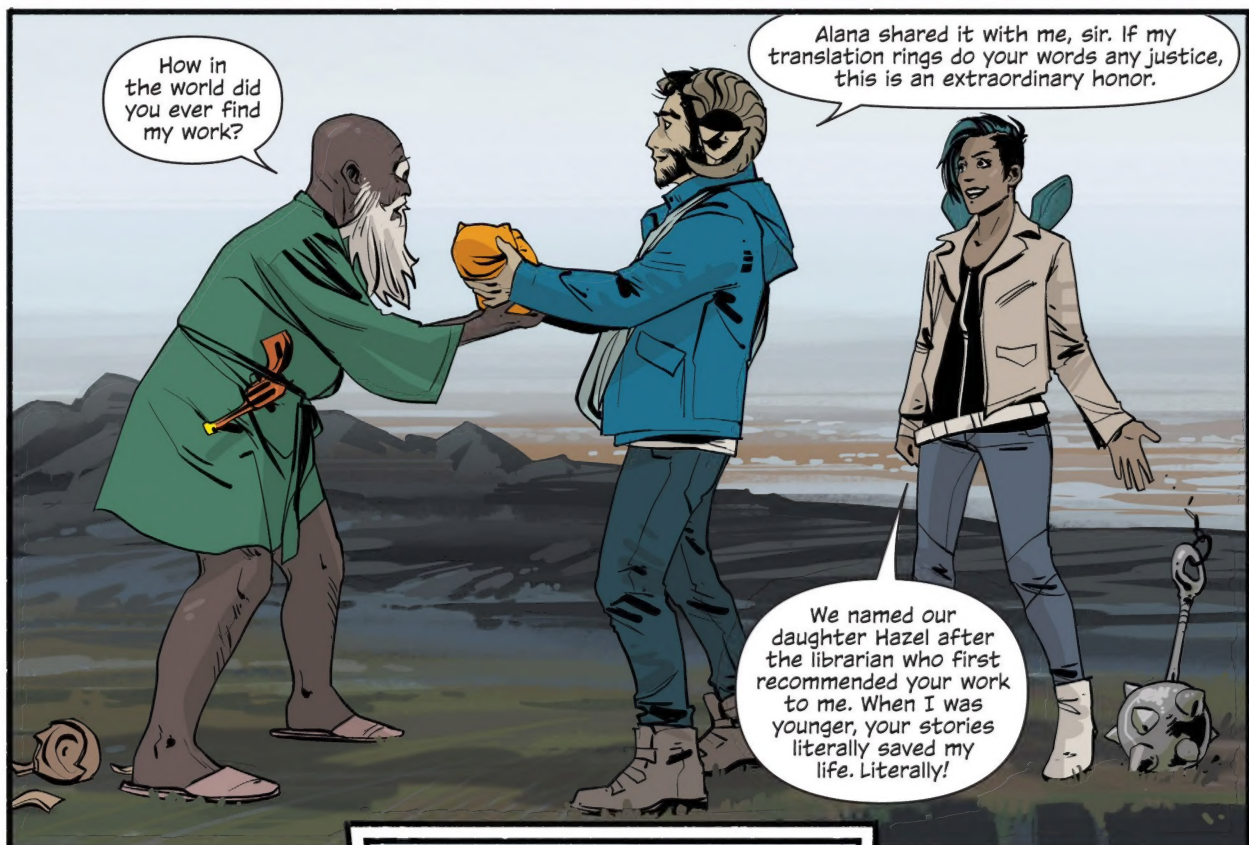
These
are real.

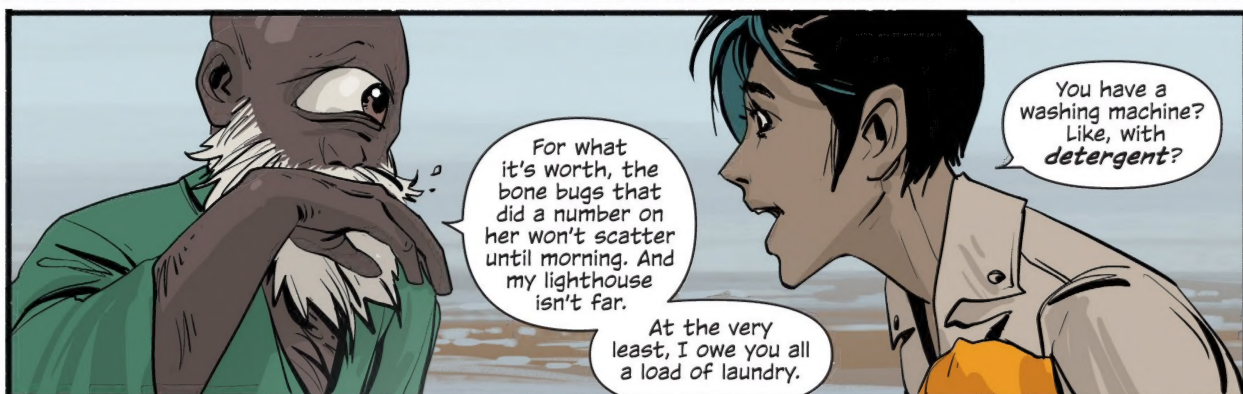
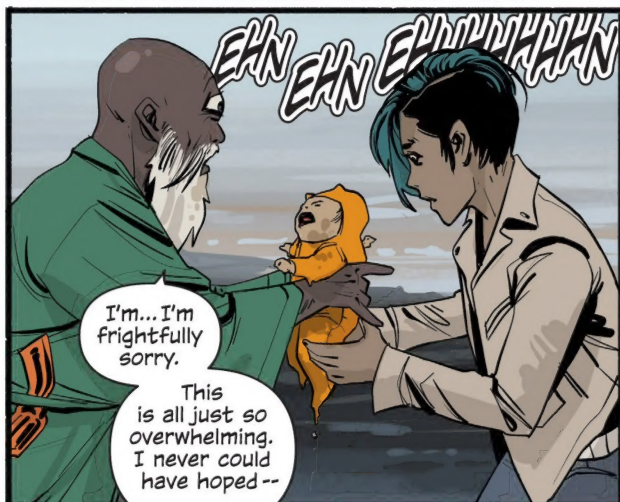
And
so is our
baby.

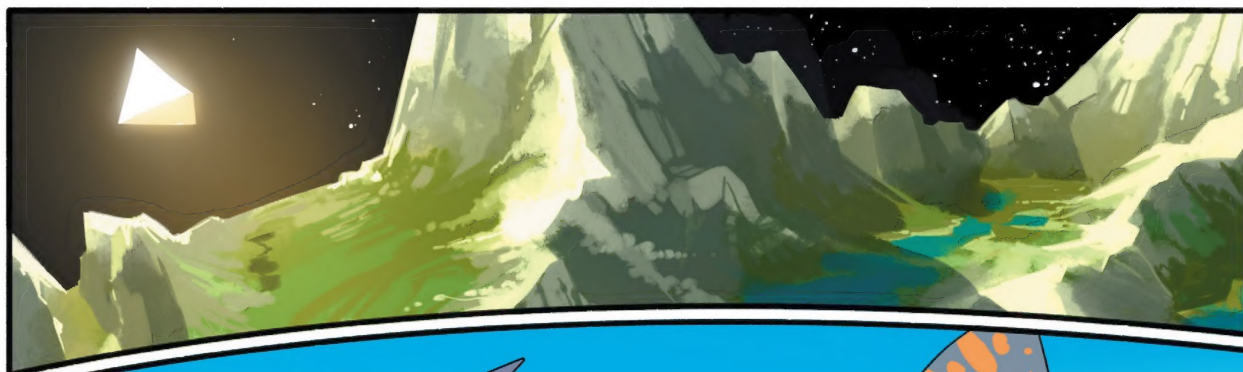


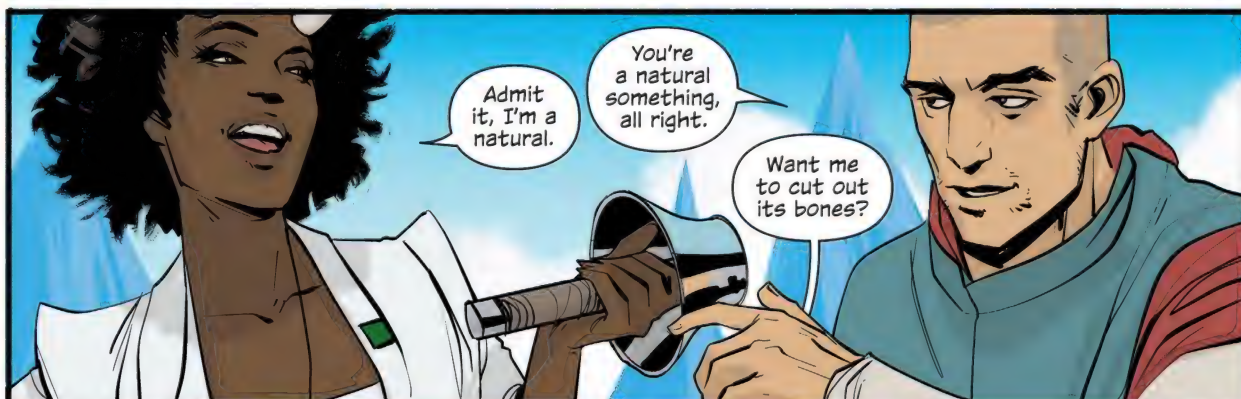
A
Nighttime
Smoke.

You
read it.
You **got**
it.











Why don't you run back to the ship, child.

Maybe Lying Cat can help you with this carcass.

Okay, Miss Gwendolyn!



We gotta do something about that one.

Agreed. Until we can repair her second sense, our hunt for Marko's profane "family" is dead in the water.



I'm not worried about finding them. Every Freelancer has his own network of snitches, and mine's already at work on your job.

Are you insane? You signed an N.D.A. with Wreath High Command! No one is supposed to know we're looking for a fucking half-breed child!

Which is why I only offered a reward for tips about a **wooden rocket**.



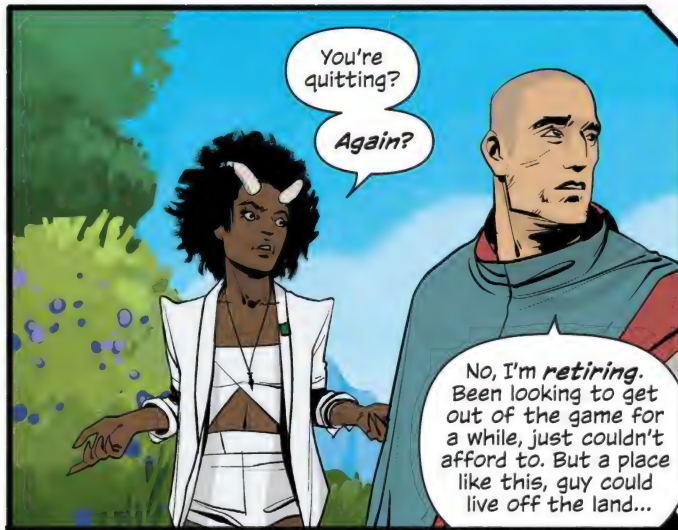
Oh. That was... not completely unwise, actually.

Anyway, I'll pass along whatever leads I get.

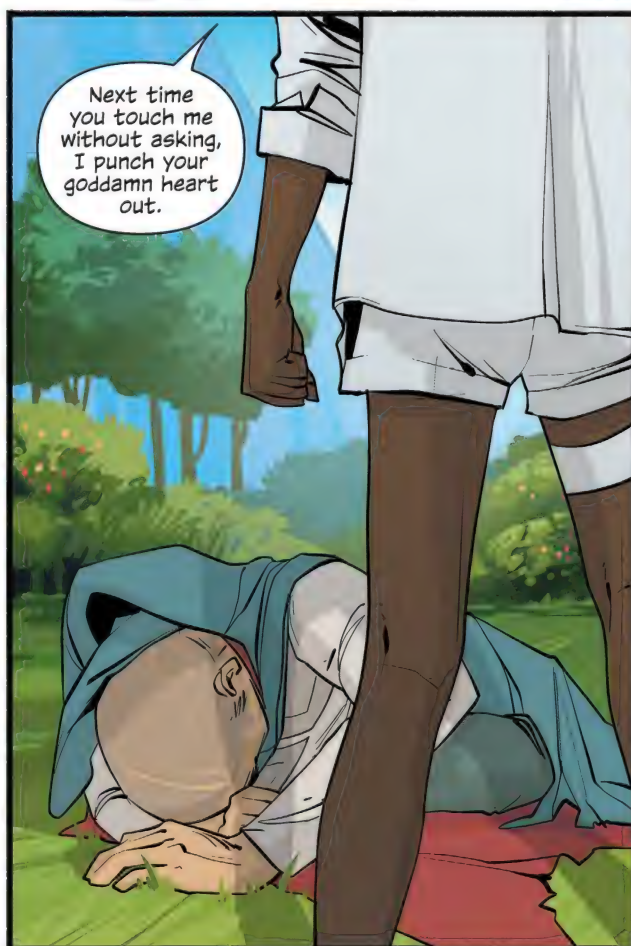
Pass along?



You can keep looking for these freaks if you want, but I ain't coming with you.









Back on Quietus,
my parents and I
were getting our
first look at a house
with more stories
than its owner.



Come,
come.

Library
has the best
lighting, besides
the top floor,
obviously.



Bookgasm.

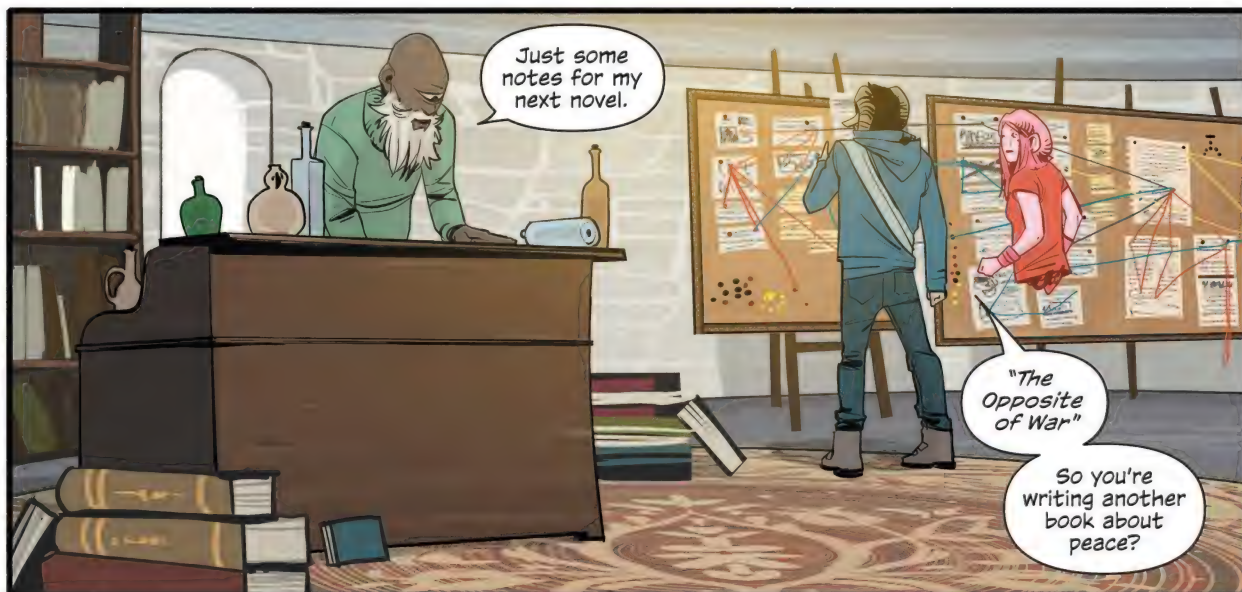
Don't get too
excited, they're mostly
review copies.

Younger writers
are always looking
for "blurbs," one of
the few words that
sounds exactly as
awful as the crime
it's describing.



Holy
crap.

I **knew**
this dude was a
serial killer.









I wear it that plainly?

I'm guessing you lost him recently.

For what it's worth, your son will get better, with time.



And maybe you will, too.

But if your spouse was anything like mine, I regret to inform you that the rest of your days will be, by and large, kind of shit.

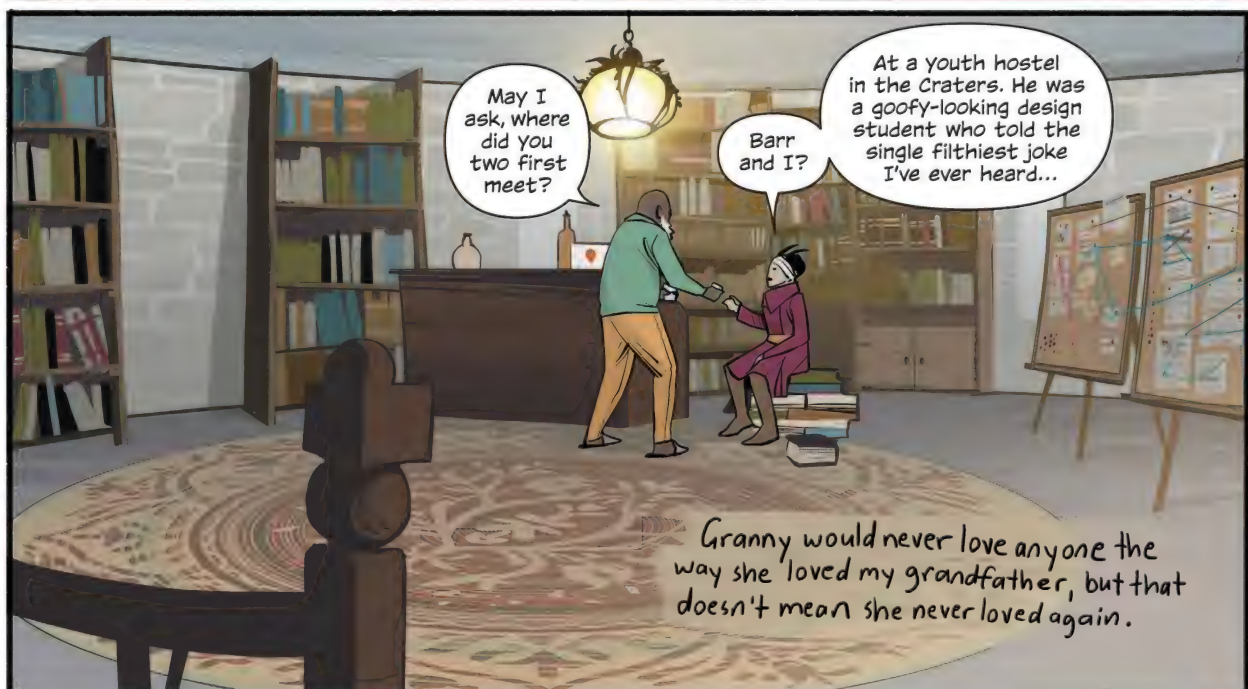


Actually, I think I'll take you up on that drink.



Two fingers or three?

Let's make it a whole fist.



May I ask, where did you two first meet?

Barr and I?

At a youth hostel in the Craters. He was a goofy-looking design student who told the single filthiest joke I've ever heard...

Granny would never love anyone the way she loved my grandfather, but that doesn't mean she never loved again.









TO BE CONTINUED

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Handing out awards for something as subjective as the arts is always completely nonsensical... until you get a bunch of trophies, and then it's fucking awesome!

Fiona and I would like to thank everyone behind the Eisners, especially because of how many equally worthy nominees were recognized alongside of us. (Even my wife thought *Hawkeye* deserved to win everything, but there you go.) All credit to Fonografiks, Eric Stephenson and everyone at Image, the best publisher ever.

And hey, our sellout lying Cat t-shirt is a sold-out success, so thanks to comics retailers across the globe for ordering so many. We're going to retire that design forever now, so lucky owners should use the delicate cycle for washings! What kind of highly collectible unnecessary merch would you guys like to purchase next?

While we await your correspondence about this new arc, let us finally embark on our second READER SURVEY. As with everything I've ever done, this is a watered-down version of something that Joss Whedon created, a semiannual questionnaire to delight, distract, and dare likeminded individuals to get to know one another a bit better.

Feel free to send us a facsimile of these pages, but real gangsters just rip 'em straight out of the book...

2013 SAGA READER SURVEY

1) In the parlance of these newfangled "chat rooms," what is your A/S/L?

2) And if you don't mind us asking, where do you buy your comical books?

3) Okay, but when was the last time you climbed a rope and/or used a rope to aid your ascent?

4) Do you believe in any kind of afterlife?

5) Who's the most famous person you went to school with?

6) In adolescent sex talk, what does "third base" represent to you?

7) President Obama probably hasn't had too much freetime since he was elected, so which (non-Saga) comics that have been released in the last five years would you most recommend to him?

8) It's your final meal; what would you like to drink with that?

9) On *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, which two characters had a never-acknowledged love affair that only you know about?

10) What's the best thing you've ever stolen?

11) Who or what do you miss?

12) Have you ever had a possible supernatural experience, and if so, what happened?

13) Do you know anyone currently in prison?

23) We're having a dance! Would you like to come to our dance?

14) Which field or fields do you consider yourself an expert in?

24) You have to permanently give up either movies or television, so what's it gonna be?

15) Have you ever been given an award?

25) Finally, please draw a quick doodle of yourself, especially if you're not an artist:

16) Has Twitter made you a happier person?

17) What did your parents almost name you?

18) Did you watch any of those videos that Chelsea Manning helped leak, especially that one?

19) If you had to fight in any war from human history, which would you choose?

20) Isn't there someone you should finally apologize to this week?

21) What is the most important article of clothing that you own?

22) Are you happily addicted to anything?

On behalf of the entire Saga family, thank you in advance for your cooperation. If you'd like your answers to remain anonymous, please let us know, and we'll do our best to ensure that your secrets die with us.

You're great,
Brian

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WASTELAND

ANTONY JOHNSTON † CHRISTOPHER MITTEN

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#WHATSNEXT

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Show me, girl. Let me see it with my own eyes.



Ah, the *Oculus*. Such a beautiful thing. its true purpose lost to history and legend...

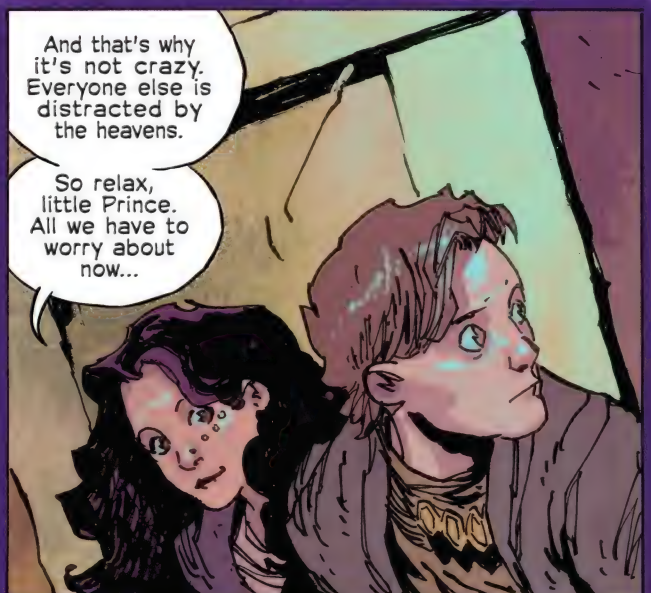
"MITTEN CONTINUES TO DRAW THE HECK OUT OF ANYTHING JOHNSTON THROWS AT HIM"
COMICS SHOULD BE GOOD



Steal the Oculus? In broad daylight? You're crazy!

Then you must be crazy for coming with me.

Anyway, it's hardly "broad daylight" during a *full eclipse*, is it?



And that's why it's not crazy. Everyone else is distracted by the heavens.

So relax, little Prince. All we have to worry about now...



"...is being seen by your *parents*."



Oh god,
oh god.

The doors all
look the same,
and somehow
I know none
of them lead
anywhere
good...



Not that
I believe
in god, of
course.

But if I did, I'd
probably start
praying right
about now.



The
bleeding
eye opens
the gate of
the **second**
dawn.

So much
power, in
such a small
thing...

"JOHNSTON'S ABILITY TO, ESSENTIALLY, STEALTH-WORLDBUILD IS IMPRESSIVE"

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We were
supposed to
be friends, you
bitch, but you
ran off! You
left me there
to **die!**



You
did die...I
was there! I
saw it!



"They said
the Peak was
lost. The home
of gods, where
brother fought
brother..."

"But we found
it. And by the
time we were
finished, men
called it
the Pit."

"JOHNSTON AND MITTEN HAVE EVOLVED SUCH A STRONG
IDENTITY, I'D BUY ANYTHING FROM THEM"

THIRTEEN MINUTES



What's
the matter,
girl...



...scared
of your own
shadow?

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CHIP DARSKY

SEX CRIMINALS

SEPTEMBER



WHO'S NEXT

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